



The Battalion

Texas A&M

Serving the University community

Vol. 81 No. 4 USPS 045360 24 pages in 2 sections

College Station, Texas

Thursday, September 5, 1985

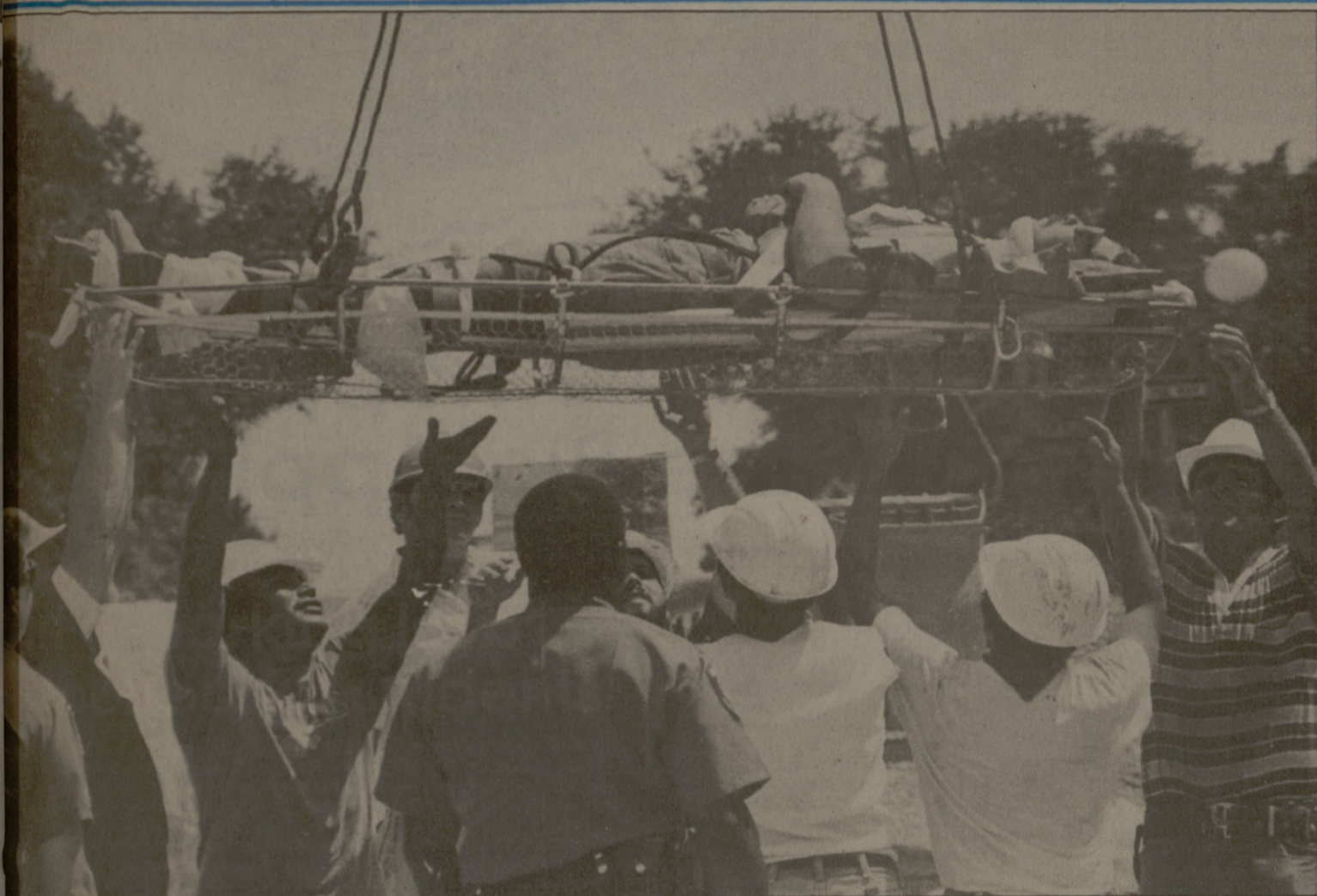


Photo by ANTHONY S. CASPER

Helping Hands

B.B. Anderson employee Alan Claxton is helped by fellow workers after he was injured while working on the roof of the new Chemistry Building. Claxton was taken off of the roof by a crane and stretcher

after a concrete form fell on him. He was injured Wednesday afternoon and at 6 p.m. was reported to be in stable condition at St. Joseph's Hospital in Bryan with a fractured pelvis.

Anti-satellite deployment threatened

Associated Press

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union announced Wednesday it will feel free to deploy anti-satellite systems in space if the United States conducts its planned test of an anti-satellite weapon.

The official news agency Tass issued a statement thought to have the authorization of top Kremlin leaders saying Moscow would "consider itself free" to lift its two-year-old moratorium on deploying anti-satellite weapons if the American test goes ahead.

In Washington, sources said the Air Force had planned to carry out the first test of its anti-satellite weapon Wednesday.

The Pentagon postponed the testing to ensure compliance with requirements that Congress be notified.

The Tass announcement appeared timed to coincide with the planned test.

It accused the United States of "taking yet another step to escalate the arms race and spread it to space."

Tass is authorized to state that if the United States holds tests of anti-satellite weapons against a target in outer space, the Soviet Union will consider itself free of its unilateral commitment not to place anti-satellite systems in space.

"The entire responsibility for the

further development of events will rest entirely on the American side."

Pentagon officials said in Washington: "The Soviets already have an operational anti-satellite system and have had one since the early 1970s."

"The Soviets have destroyed satellites in space with their ASAT system more than once."

A high-ranking Pentagon official who asked not to be identified said the Defense Department was uncertain what the Soviets mean when they suggest they would deploy an anti-satellite weapon in space.

"They could be referring to the system they already have, which is operational even though it's not based in space," he said.

"Or, they could be suggesting they might work on a new system," he said. "In either event, they already have the world's only operational system and we don't."

U.S. defense officials say the Soviet system involves launching a large rocket from the ground, which then boosts a warhead into orbit.

The warhead chases and closes on the target in orbit before exploding nearby.

Moscow has never publicly acknowledged possessing a working anti-satellite system.

Emergency loan fund helps students pay tuition

By JENS B. KOEPKE
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M emergency loan program provides University students with an additional source of money to meet the rising costs of education. Alvin Bormann, assistant director of financial aid, said,

"When they (the legislature) increased tuition, they felt they needed to have a mechanism to help students pay for the increases," Bormann said.

The loan program is part of House Bill 1147, the law that raised

tuition for students attending state-supported colleges and universities.

The law allows students to pay their fees in installments during the semester rather than pay before the semester.

The law also states that the University must set aside fifteen percent of each resident student's tuition charge and five percent of each non-resident student's tuition charge for Texas Public Educational Grants and for use as emergency loans.

Any full-time student with a grade-point ratio of 2.0 or better is

eligible for the emergency loan program, he said. The applicant must show financial need and the ability to repay the loan by Nov. 1.

The loan covers tuition and all required fees and is payable at 5 percent interest per year.

The loan has no limit, making it ideal for non-resident students, Bormann added.

The other alternative for students is to pay their fees in either two or four installments. Students are charged \$10 for paying in installments and \$10 for a late payment.

The programs are meant to provide two alternatives for defraying the rising costs of education, Bormann said, but both programs cannot be used together.

Other short-term loans have been available at A&M for many years, he said. The amount for the loans ranges from \$175 to a maximum of \$750 payable at 10 percent interest per year.

The student must meet the same eligibility requirements as for the emergency loans, Bormann said, but the short-term loan can be used for

general costs rather than just tuition and required fees.

About a fifth of the student body uses some form of short-term financial aid, he said.

He said that many students use both kinds of loans; an emergency loan for their tuition and required fees and a regular short-term loan for other costs.

"We are trying to spread the money around to provide the best usage," Bormann said.

A percentage of fall tuition payments provide the capital for the

emergency loan program, he said, while short-term loans are generated through gifts and donations.

The maintenance and collection of all the loans and the installment payment plan are handled by the fiscal office, Bormann said.

If a student has not paid on time, university records and re-enrollment are blocked and notices are sent out to the students.

If this does not work, he said, it is turned over to a collection agency. As a last resort, the Texas attorney general will take the matter to court.

Delta names FAA in suit

Associated Press

DALLAS — Delta Air Lines filed court motion claiming that negligence on the part of air traffic controllers caused one of its jetliners to crash at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on Aug. 2, killing 135 people.

Delta named the Federal Aviation Administration a third party in a suit against the airline filed by the wife of passenger who died in the crash of flight 191.

Gynthia Zoe Dahl, 35, of Sandy,

Utah, filed the original suit against Delta in state district court alleging negligence on the part of the airline. Mrs. Dahl's husband, Steven Bradley Dahl, 36, died in the crash.

Delta filed a third-party petition on Aug. 29 claiming the crash was "caused by the negligence of the one or more air traffic control personnel" employed by the FAA.

The carrier seeks "contribution from the FAA for any liability" which may be issued against Delta as the result of Mrs. Dahl's suit.

Part of parking lot 51 reopened for students

The back half of parking annex has been reopened for student use. Bob Wiatt, Texas A&M's director of security and traffic, told The Battalion Wednesday that a survey of the lot had determined that the area did not use it as much as expected.

Lot 51 was entirely closed to students this week to see if the 400 extra spaces were needed for staff.

Wiatt said the survey was conducted because much staff parking had been eliminated in the past year as construction on campus. University police thought, Wiatt said, that the extra spaces might accommodate staff who had previously used some of the now non-existent spaces.

But Wiatt says that the staff did fill up the back half of lot 51, and was reopened Wednesday afternoon for student use.

The police department will dismiss the 237 tickets issued during the last three days on the back portion of the lot, Wiatt says. Those tickets will automatically be voided on the computer, he says.

Only those who have paid for their tickets need to go to the police department. All refunds must be claimed in person.

Correction

The Battalion reported on Wednesday that students who received parking tickets on the back portion of the lot could get their tickets dismissed by going to the police station. However, as mentioned above, the tickets will be automatically dismissed.

In The Battalion's Wednesday editorial, the front half of parking annex 51 was referred to as lot 50.

The Battalion regrets these errors.

Dorm assignments endured

Students cope with overcrowding

By SONDRRA PICKARD
Reporter

The first week of fall classes is drawing to a close and as many as 400 students are patiently enduring a lengthy wait for a dorm room to call their own.

Tom Murray, the on-campus housing supervisor, relates the process of overassigning incoming students in dorms to the practice of overbooking on airlines.

"From past experience we know we'll have spaces available in dorms due to returning students who don't show up, transfers or students with academic problems," Murray says. "We have a pretty good picture of the spaces that will be open in the fall during the previous spring semester."

Living in an Aston Hall study carrel with three other men took freshman Marc Del Tatto by surprise, but he says he accepted the challenge and soon found it quite enjoyable.

"It's not that bad," Del Tatto says. "I'm getting better exposure to more people and it makes me give in to certain things I wouldn't have to with just one roommate."

Terry West, a freshman over-assigned in Underwood Hall, considers herself one of the lucky

few who at least got a chance to stay on campus where she wanted to live.

"Even though it's a small room for three people, it's been neat getting to know more girls," West says.

A freshman in Moses Hall, Jim Blanken says it took him a while to adjust, but he's happy just being in a dorm.

"There's not much space now," Blanken says, "but I can sure live with it until I get my own room."

During the summer, incoming students who did not receive dorm spaces were notified and then later offered the choice of being overassigned. Meanwhile, any student who didn't show up at his assigned dorm by 5 p.m. Monday, the first day of classes, lost his space. These spaces are filled by the overassigned students.

"I kinda like it here and really want to stick around," Robert Dunshie, a freshman in Aston Hall, says. "I have two great roommates instead of one, so there's always someone to go out with."

Although the students may not get the dorm of their preference, Murray says he is confident that by Friday the majority of the

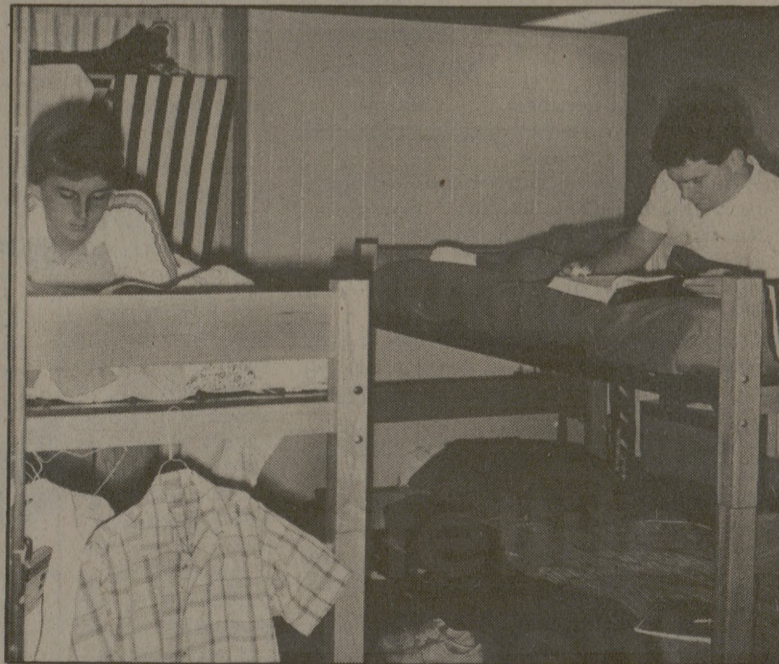


Photo by KYLE HAWKINS

Overassigned students should receive a permanent room assignments later this week.

overassigned students will be given a permanent room.

Murray also says that although all of the spaces for women will be filled, there will be extra spaces for male students. He says any

male who wishes to live on campus should sign up for a dorm room as soon as possible.

The earliest these walk-on students will be allowed to move in is Monday.